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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

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Confirmation No.: 9219

Application No.: 09/988,954 **MAR 29 2004**

Attorney Docket No.: 780-A02-006-11

Filed: November 21, 2003 **TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**

Group Art Unit: 3738

For: **TISSUE STABILIZATION METHOD**

Examiner: P. Prebilic

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

A revised Form PTO/SB/08 listing all foreign patent applications and other non-U.S. patent publications submitted for consideration is enclosed. Copies of the listed references are being submitted pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2). Applicant notes that an information disclosure statement listing U.S. Patents and Published U.S. Patent Applications was electronically submitted March 23, 2004, and no copies were enclosed pursuant to the USPTO's waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i).

Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are: (a) copies of foreign patent applications.

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) before the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Dated: MARCH 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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